



the collegian

GAMEDAY GUIDE

friday, october 4, 2013

Boone Pickens Stadium 2:30 p.m.

K-STATE VS. Oklahoma State University



K-State set to take on reeling OSU



Chandler Riley | Collegian

Senior wide receiver Tramaine Thompson blocks for junior wide receiver Tyler Lockett as he returns a kickoff during the second half of the Texas game on Sept. 21. Lockett broke the school record for most receiving yards during the game against the Longhorns and looked to build on his achievements in Stillwater, Okla. against the Cowboys.

By the numbers

Adam Suderman
staff writer

15

Number of wins for K-State in its last 20 games following a bye week

Under head coach Bill Snyder, the Wildcats have often capitalized after a week off. Within the 15 victories, five have come since 2010. They have won their last four games following a bye week.

32.1

The average kickoff return yards for Tyler Lockett throughout his collegiate career

As Tyler Lockett moves up in K-State receiving rankings, the junior standout continues to excel in the return game. With the above mentioned average, Lockett ranks second nationally among active players. He also sits atop the Big 12 game rankings with an average of 32.8 yards. Teammate Tramaine Thompson sits fifth in conference career rankings with an average of 26.5 yards.

30

Number of wins for Oklahoma State in conference games since 2008

With the mark, the Cowboys rank second amongst current Big 12 schools. Along with Oklahoma, the Cowboys are one of only two schools to have posted a winning record against the league each season during that time frame.

23

Oklahoma State's national ranking in rush defense

Under defensive coordinator Glenn Spencer, the Cowboys have maintained a stout rush defense throughout their first four games. They have also maintained a consistent ability to get off the field after three downs. Oklahoma State has the No. 24 ranked third-down defense. To make the numbers sound better, only four other defenses have spent more time on the field this season – Oregon, Wyoming, Louisiana Tech and San Jose State.

Sean Frye
sports editor

The last time the K-State Wildcats traveled to Stillwater, Okla., the Wildcats trailed the Oklahoma State Cowboys 52-45 with one second left on the clock, and it was third-and-goal from the five yard line.

On the next play, former K-State quarterback Collin Klein rolled to the right, stepped into the pocket and then fired a pass over the head of then-sophomore wide receiver Tramaine Thompson that sailed through the back of the end zone.

It was the second and final loss of the 2011 regular season for the Wildcats, who later went to the Cotton Bowl, but it was a painful one nonetheless.

The two teams had combined for 28 points in the final six minutes of the game and the Wildcats went toe-to-toe with the then-third ranked team in the country. Nevertheless, it was the second straight week K-State had lost as they were coming off a blowout at the hands of Oklahoma in the previous week.

Last year, the Wildcats exacted their revenge with a dominating 44-30 win at Bill Snyder Family Stadium en route to a Big 12 title. Last year's game against the Cowboys was also the first time Daniel Sams had seen any meaningful playing time in Big 12 play, as Klein left the game midway through with a concussion.

Sams was left with the task of not letting a 24-point lead slip. The Cowboys ended up cutting the game to 14, but K-State left victorious and Sams finished with 45 yards passing on just 5-of-6 attempts and also ran for 20 yards.

"I thought Daniel did reasonably well," K-State head coach Bill Snyder said after that game. "He did not make any major mistakes, he ran out of bounds one time when we were trying to run the clock out. He does not have that figured out yet. Aside from that, he managed the game okay."

Now Sams is one of two quarterbacks heavily used by the Wildcats and said he hopes to have a big role as K-State looks to rebound from its Week Four 31-21 loss to the Texas Longhorns.

"We have two quarterbacks that are playing well," Snyder said during his bye week press conference. "And as I have said before, both of them deserve the opportunity to play and both of them will have the opportunity to play."

Against Texas when the Wildcats fell behind early, junior quarterback Jake Waters took the reins as the team was forced to go to the air in attempt to cut the deficit. Sams never even saw the field in the second half.

Late in the fourth quarter, K-State had cut Texas' lead down to 10 points and the Wildcats were knocking on the door inside the 10 yard line. But two fumbles on consecutive drives by Waters dashed any hope of a late comeback.

Snyder said this week that Waters has put that behind him, though, and that he's ready to go into Stillwater with a clean slate.

"He is one of those young guys that does not let it affect him," Snyder said. "He is one of those guys that is ready to move on to the next snap, ready to move on to the next practice and ready to move on to the next game. It hurts him when it happens, but he understands that you have to play to the next snap."

It wasn't all bad in Austin, Texas for K-State, though. Junior wide receiver Tyler Lockett set a school record with 237 receiving yards and leads the Big 12 in receptions per game at 7.2.

This weekend, Lockett said he is going into the game looking to avenge the 2011 loss the Wildcats suffered to the Cowboys.

"The last time we went to Oklahoma State we ended up losing, and this is my last time playing at Oklahoma State," Lockett said. "When you look back at it, you do not want the same thing to happen again. I think it really starts on the practice field, but I think a lot of players are really getting ready for this game on Saturday."

The Wildcats had two weeks to correct the mistakes that presented so many problems in the Texas game, as K-State had a bye week last Saturday. Snyder said that having that much time to prepare magnified the issues his team has faced after its second loss.

"When you lose a couple of ball games,

those things tend to grow a little bit," Snyder said. "And it is important to thoroughly investigate those things each week, win, lose or draw."

One of the biggest issues on the defensive side of the ball for K-State has been the pass rush. Going into Saturday, the Wildcats are seventh in the Big 12 in sacks with just seven. Against the Longhorns, senior Wildcat defensive lineman Chaquil Reed was the only player to manage to get to the quarterback as he recorded the team's lone sack in the loss.

Sophomore defensive end Marquel Bryant said this week that the defense is putting an increased emphasis on improving its ability to put pressure on the quarterback.

"It is a big deal coming from the defensive ends' point of view," Bryant said. "Lately these last few games, we have not been giving too much. I feel like we can give so much more. [Oklahoma State is] more of a passing team, so it is a big deal for us to get back there. The coaches have been on us during practice and drills about our hand-work to get to the quarterback."

As for the Oklahoma State Cowboys, they're coming off their first loss of the season, a 30-21 upset in Morgantown, W.Va. at the hands of the West Virginia Mountaineers.

The Cowboys were initially picked as the top team in the conference in the preseason Big 12 poll. But with the Oklahoma Sooners being the only team ranked in the Top 15 of the AP Poll, the conference is anybody's for the taking this season.

Snyder said that the Cowboys will come out with an increased competitiveness following the loss, though.

"They will be angry. They certainly will continue to be very competitive," Snyder said. "I think it is that emotion when you lose a ballgame — the real competitive people get very upset about it and anger can be channeled in the right direction to help perform."

The Cowboys are led by sophomore

ANALYSIS | pg. 6

Analyzing the No. 21 Oklahoma State Cowboys

Sean Frye
sports editor

The Oklahoma State Cowboys, who are 3-1 overall and 0-1 in Big 12 play this season, are one of the Big 12's most dangerous teams.

The Cowboys were voted by the media as the top team in the Big 12 pre-season poll and are therefore projected to win the conference. The team also returned seven starters on both sides of the ball.

Offensively, the biggest threat for the Cowboys is sophomore quarterback J.W. Walsh. Walsh is currently fourth in the Big 12 in total offense with 299.5 yards per game. He's also fifth in passing yards per game (241.0) and 10th in rushing yards per game (58.5).

Walsh is at the helm of one of the fastest offenses in the entire country. Currently, the Cowboys rank 31st in the country with over 78 offensive plays run per game. The Wildcats will have to deal with that tempo on the defensive side of the ball.

Sophomore defensive back Dante Barnett said he feels like the tempo will be the biggest challenge.

"I would say their tempo just because they are faster than any team that we have faced this year," Barnett said. "But every team in the Big 12 has a fast tempo and a spread offense. So I feel like we have been preparing all year for this."

The Cowboys are one of

the worst rushing teams in the country, ranking just 72nd in rush offense. Walsh leads the team in rushing yards with just 234 yards on the year.

"Their quarterback is actively involved in the run game more than they have been in the past, so it makes it more varied, more diverse," K-State head coach Bill Snyder said.

Josh Stewart, the star wide receiver for the Cowboys, is Walsh's favorite target. The junior currently leads the team with 312 yards receiving.

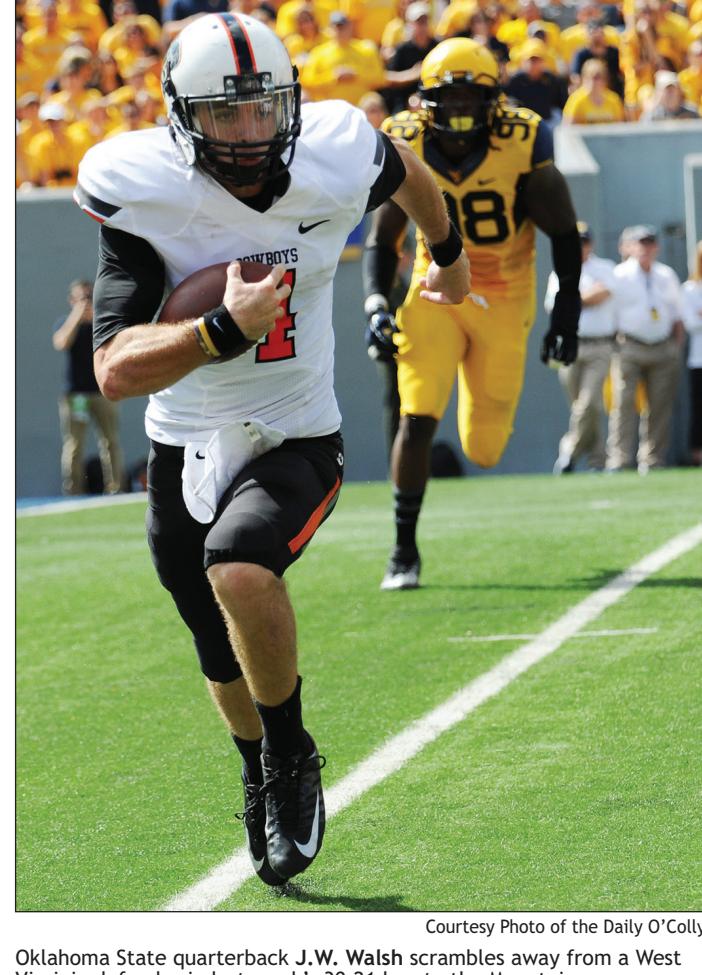
Defensively, the Cowboys are a middle-of-the-road team in the Big 12. They rank sixth in the conference in total defense with 367.5 yards given up per game.

Where Oklahoma State stands out defensively is defending the run, which they are the best in the conference at. The Cowboys allow the fewest yards on the ground in the Big 12 at just 108.8 per game.

That's been thanks largely in part to senior linebacker Caleb Lavey, who has 33 tackles, including 4.5 for a loss, this year.

Oklahoma State's secondary though has been very suspect this year, ranking dead last in the conference. The Cowboys give up 258.8 yards per game through the air.

Overall, the Cowboys are a talented team that's coming off an upset loss and is sure to be angry. They have an up-tempo offense but a shaky defense. Expect Saturday to be a hotly contested Big 12 matchup.



Courtesy Photo of the Daily O'Colly

Oklahoma State quarterback J.W. Walsh scrambles away from a West Virginia defender in last week's 30-21 loss to the Mountaineers.

Comparing Positions: Wildcats versus Cowboys



Spencer Low

LB Caleb Lavey vs. LB Blake Slaughter

Lavey leads Oklahoma State with 33 tackles through the first four games of their season, including 4.5 tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks. The Celina, Texas product had 53 tackles a season ago, including seven for loss, and 74 tackles and six for a loss two seasons ago. Now in his senior season, it is up to Lavey to lead the Cowboy defense, and he has answered the call so far. Durability and intelligence are two of Lavey's calling cards, as he has made 30 consecutive starts and has been named to two All-Big 12 Academic Teams.

Slaughter has been the ring-leader of the K-State linebacker corps this season, leading the team with 37 tackles. Slaughter may not have the pedigree that Lavey does after redshirting last year and playing mainly special teams in 2011, but he has made his presence felt on the field in 2013. Slaughter was elected as a team captain for this season, and has shown his leadership this year in leading the Wildcat defense.

Edge: Lavey. Lavey has been making an impact for multiple seasons. He has shown that he is a smart player and one to keep an eye on tomorrow.

WR Josh Stewart vs. WR Tyler Lockett



Chandler Riley | Collegian

Senior linebacker Blake Slaughter levels an opposing Texas player during the game on Sept. 21. Through four games Slaughter had a total of 37 tackles and two sacks.

Lockett

Stewart finished 2012 with some big time numbers: 101 receptions for 1210 yards and seven trips to the end zone. His 7.8 catches per game ranked 10th in the nation, he was already in the Top 10 in school history in receptions and receiving yards entering this season. Despite diminutive stature at 5 feet 10 inches, 185 pounds, he is one of the biggest weapons for the Cowboy offense and a threat to tear apart any defense with 19 catches for 312 yards and two touchdowns this

year. Last season, the junior had 92 yards against the Wildcats, and will be looking to eclipse the 100 yard mark against K-State this year. Stewart does not only play on the offensive side of the ball, he also serves as his team's punt returner. He has returned nine punts this year, averaging 18.2 yards per return, including one touchdown.

Lockett has some similarities to Stewart. Measuring 5 feet 11 inches, 175 pounds, the junior wide receiver had a solid season as a freshman, but has emerged as a true offensive threat last year,

hauling in 44 passes for 687 yards in a run-first offense. Lockett already has 29 catches this season for 469 yards and a touchdown. Also like Stewart, Lockett's impact is not limited to offense. As a kick returner, he has a massive impact on the game, with four career kick return touchdowns and is no doubt hungry for his first this season.

Edge: Stewart. This one was very close, but Stewart is one of the biggest names in the Big 12 and has put up some gaudy numbers in his career. He makes plays

all over the field and will be one of the biggest containment issues that K-State will face all season.

RB Jeremy Smith vs. RB John Hubert

Smith is now in his senior season for the Cowboys after spending much of last season fighting a nagging injury. Smith has never eclipsed 100 carries in a season, but will do that this year if he can stay healthy. He has already carried the ball 52 times for 177 yards and six touchdowns. His best season came in 2011, when he ran for 646 yards and nine touchdowns as a part of a solid tandem with Joseph Randle. Despite a 3.4 yards per carry average this season, his career mark came in to 2013 was 6.2, making him a truly dangerous ball carrier.

Many people expected a monster season from Hubert this year, but the offense has struggled with the run, and Hubert's numbers are not what many thought they would be. With 58 carries for 238 yards, Hubert has found some success recently, tallying two touchdowns against Texas in his last game and 118 yards against UMass the week before that.

Now over the 2000 yard mark in his career, and climbing up the top-ten list in school history for rushing yards, Hubert is looking for a statement game to get his season going.

Edge: Hubert. Hubert has had two good seasons that saw him carry the ball plenty for K-State, while Smith has yet to prove himself as a central part of an offense.

Spencer Low is a senior in political science. Please send all comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

Winning turnover battle, limiting penalties are keys for Wildcat success



John Zetmeir

Teams coached by Bill Snyder have always been famous for doing the little things well. Turnover margin is something that has tilted in the favor of the Wildcats and the same goes for penalties. Last season the Wildcats were one of the least penalized teams in the country.

This season, however, has been quite the opposite.

The Wildcats have already turned the ball over nine times through their first four games. With a young team, the Wildcats cannot afford to gift possessions. Both of K-State's losses so far this season have come by 10 points or less. In both of those games, the Wildcats have lost the turnover margin. It has shown that to

win close games, you have to be better at taking care of the football.

Even though teams generally would prefer not to enter a bye week after a loss, it was beneficial for K-State to have their first bye week when they did. The Wildcats had been playing very uncharacteristically, so that extra week of practice could be what they needed to fix those little mistakes.

"The bye week helped us realize our mistakes," said sophomore safety Dante Barnett. "We'd seen on film our mistakes that we made in the [Texas] game. The whole bye week, we went through and fixed."

Penalties have also been an issue for K-State through their first four games this season. The Wildcats committed eight penalties in their last game against Texas. Last season, the Wildcats had only been penalized eight times through their first four games total.

It all boils down to execution. The Wildcats have to be able to execute better than

other teams that have great athletes if they want to win. The Wildcats have to get back to playing fundamentally sound football. The talent is there, but it will not show if they continue to execute poorly.

Part of it is the fundamentals of the game, the execution of the game, assignments and recalls of assignments, the emotion and focus of which you compete with — all the intrinsic things that we talk about so frequently," Snyder said. "When you lose a couple of ballgames, those things tend to grow a little bit and it is important to thoroughly investigate those things each week, win, lose or draw."

Two weeks ago, the Cowboys appeared to be the favorite to win the Big 12 title. Their offense looked to be firing on all cylinders while their defense looked poised enough to stop Big 12 offenses.

But last week, the West Virginia Mountaineers exposed a chink in the armor of the Oklahoma State Cowboys. Oklahoma State only managed

to score 21 points while allowing the struggling Mountainer offense to score 30. With new junior quarterback Clint Trickett, West Virginia found success through the air.

The key for the Wildcats' success against the Oklahoma State defense could be to find their rhythm early on in the passing game. Coming off of a 13 catch, 237 yard performance, junior wide receiver Tyler Lockett could prove to be the X-factor against the Cowboys suspect defense.

Defensively, the Wildcats could be in for a long day.

Despite their lackluster performance last week, this Oklahoma State offense can be very explosive. They have been one of the top teams in the conference at running the no-huddle, up tempo offense. It will not be an easy task for this defense, but if they can get back to their "bend but don't break" mentality, that could be enough to contain the Cowboys. The key for the defense will be to get stops on third down and not allow the big play.

"They will be faster," Snyder said. "This will be the fastest team that we have faced so

far this season. The following week, it will get a bit faster than that, but it will be more of a challenge than it was at the Texas game."

For the Cowboys, the keys to the game will be to get back to what made them successful and be able to run their offense fluently. The Cowboys have given the Wildcats many fits over the years, that could continue this weekend if they can get back to their old ways.

John Zetmeir is a junior in pre-journalism. Please send all comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

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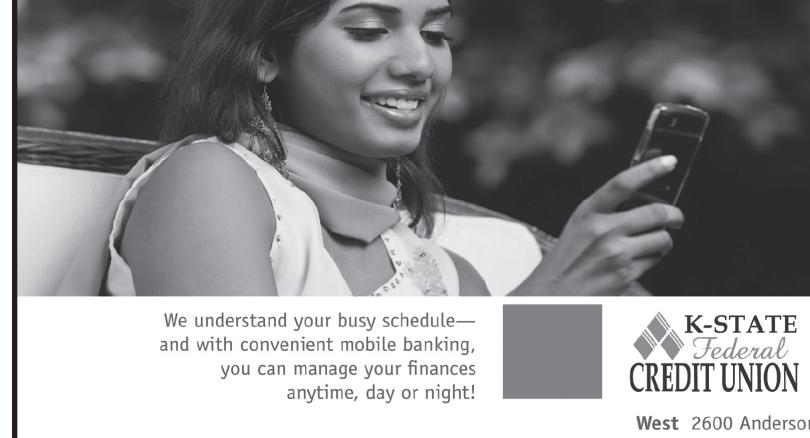
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Heisman Watch: Week 6



Khlarissa Agee | Fresno State Collegian

Fresno State senior quarterback Derek Carr (right) celebrates his team's win over Boise State last week with his brother David Carr, a former NFL quarterback.



Corbin McGuire

and four touchdowns to push the No. 3 Tigers to 4-0. The Tigers rolled Wake Forest 56-7, during which Boyd eclipsed the 100-career touchdown barrier. Boyd's next few opponents — at Syracuse then at home against Boston College — should be opportunities to fill up the stat book before a critical matchup with No. 8 Florida State on Oct. 19.

2. Marcus Mariota (QB, Oregon)

The only team scoring more points than No. 2 Oregon right now is Baylor — 69.7 per game compared to the Ducks' 59.8. Most recently, however, Mariota struggled passing the ball against California. The sophomore completed 11-of-25 passes for 114 yards. He still ranks in the Top 20 in the NCAA in terms of total offense with an average just under 325 yards per game despite his 147-yard outing (33 yards rushing) against the Bears. Mariota should bounce back in the passing game, so his only real concern for getting an invite to New York for the Heisman selection are road games against No. 15 Washington and No. 5 Stanford, which could be for the SEC East title.

1. Tajh Boyd (QB, Clemson)

Boyd accounted for all three touchdowns — all through the air — in the Tigers' 12-point win at North Carolina State two weeks back. All together, he accounted for 282 of the Tigers' 415 yards. Last Saturday against Wake Forest, he topped that performance with 380 total yards

as well as a home game against No. 12 UCLA.

3. Aaron Murray (QB, Georgia)

Murray came up big in the Bulldogs comeback win over No. 10 LSU, a game where it seemed whatever team had the ball last would win. Murray hit 20-of-34 pass attempts for just less than 300 yards and four touchdowns, including a 25-yard touchdown pass with less than two minutes to play to give the Bulldogs the lead and eventual 44-41 win. Oh yeah, and he did it without the best running back in the SEC, sophomore Todd Gurley, who was injured early in the game. Murray ranks eighth in the NCAA for total yards per game with an average 339.5 yards per game. With the heart of the Bulldogs' schedule behind them, Murray's toughest test the rest of the regular season is a Nov. 2 game against No. 18 Florida, which could be for the SEC East title.

4. A.J. McCarron (QB, Alabama)

So long as the Tide keeps winning and McCarron stays healthy,

the senior will remain a serious contender for the Heisman. McCarron is completing 68.2 percent of his passes with a quarterback rating of 148.1 with the Tide's next tough test being at home against LSU. If McCarron outduels LSU's Zach Mettenberger, he'll be in position to win a third straight national championship, and possibly Alabama's first Heisman since Mark Ingram in 2009.

5. Johnny Manziel (QB, Texas A&M)

Manziel, who ranks fifth in the NCAA in total offense with more than 360 yards per game, fueled his team to a road win against Arkansas last week, despite the Aggies' iffy defense. If the Aggies, praying for two Alabama losses, can sneak into the SEC championship game, Manziel will be right back on top of the list.

6. Derek Carr (QB, Fresno State)

The newest addition to the watch list is Carr, whose average total yards per game of just less than 375 yards ranks him third in the NCAA. The No. 23 Bulldogs' marquee win over

Boise State was fueled by Carr's 460 passing yards and four touchdowns. Even with his quarterback rating of 144.3, Carr's stats will have to improve considering the Bulldogs' weak schedule — with no Top 25 teams currently on it — to stay in Heisman discussions.

7. Bryce Petty (QB, Baylor)

Petty ranks No. 2 in the NCAA in completion percentage, (74.6), No. 6 in total offense, (346 yards per game), No. 5 in passing yards per game, (333.7), along with many other categories he's ranked highly in. Not to mention the Bears are leading the NCAA in scoring at just less than 70 points per game. The No. 17 Bears have yet to play a BCS school, so we'll see how the Bears adjust to a jump in competition this week against a confident West Virginia team coming off a win over Oklahoma State.

Corbin McGuire is a senior in mass communications. Please send all comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

Big 12 Football Predictions: Week 6



Sean Frye

11:00 a.m. CDT, FOX Sports 1

Red Raiders' prolific offense. Expect Texas Tech to handle this one easily.

PREDICTION: Texas Tech - 45, Kansas - 17



No. 11 Oklahoma Sooners vs TCU Horned Frogs 6:00 p.m. CDT, FOX

The Sooners are fresh off of a dominating 35-21 win on the road against the Notre Dame Fighting Irish and are now set to return home to resume conference play with a perfect 4-0 record.

Junior quarterback Blake Bell, who took the starting job from freshman Trevor Knight, shined against the Irish, passing for 232 yards

and two scores in the win.

As for the Horned Frogs, they rebounded from a loss to Texas Tech by crushing SMU 48-17, which brought their record back to an even 2-2. The Horned Frogs also dropped a Week One contest then No. 12 LSU.

TCU is led by sophomore quarterback Trevone Boykin, who has 625 yards passing and four touchdowns after taking over for senior Casey Pachall who went down with an injury in Week Two.

The Horned Frogs are a better team than most give them credit, but they aren't good enough to overcome Oklahoma, who are looking like the Big 12's best. Especially with this game being in Norman, Okla., the Sooners should take care of business.

PREDICTION: Oklahoma - 24, TCU - 13



West Virginia Mountaineers vs. No. 17 Baylor Bears

7:00 p.m. CDT, FOX Sports 1

Neither team could be any hotter going into this matchup. The Mountaineers are fresh off their upset win over then No. 11 Oklahoma State, while the high-powered Bears are a perfect 3-0, one of just three undefeated teams left in the Big 12.

West Virginia has struggled to find a leader all year, but they may have found one last week in junior quarterback Clint Trickett. The Florida State transfer shined in his first start for the Mountaineers last week, throwing for 309 yards and ultimately

managing the game well enough for West Virginia to pull off a huge upset.

As for Baylor, the two-headed monster of juniors quarterback Bryce Petty and running back Lache Seastrunk is one of the most dangerous in college football. Petty leads in the Big 12 with 333.7 yards passing per game, while Seastrunk leads the league averaging 139 yards on the ground.

Last year's game was a shootout that ended with now New York Jets starting quarterback Geno Smith and the Mountaineers beating Baylor 70-63. The game won't likely be as high scoring this time around, but the Bears should put up enough points to outduel West Virginia.

PREDICTION: Baylor - 48, West Virginia - 20

Sean Frye is a senior in electronic journalism. Please send all comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

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Games of the Week Preview: Week 6

Ethan Blouin
staff writer



K-State Wildcats @ No. 21 Oklahoma State Cowboys

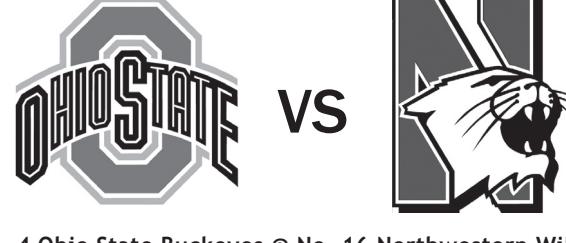
2:30 p.m. CDT ABC

These two teams are both coming off disappointing conference starts. Oklahoma State fell to West Virginia last week and K-State fell to Texas two weeks ago. Both teams will be looking to rebound in this game and move to .500 in conference play.

For K-State, the offense must lead the way. If that means throwing the ball 50 times, then that's what they'll have to do. Oklahoma State's defense has been very good against the run game this year, and much more susceptible to the pass. For the Wildcats defense, look for them to keep everything in front of them, and guard against the big play.

Last week for Oklahoma State, the ground game let them down. Only averaging 2.8 yards a carry will not win them most games in the Big 12. It's no secret K-State's defense has struggled against the run, as they've given up 185.5 rushing yards a game. Look for the running game to be the focus of the Cowboys attack on offense with their running backs and quarterback J.W. Walsh, who actually leads the Cowboys in rushing.

The loser of this game is basically all but eliminated from the conference title chase, as the loser would be 0-2 with games against TCU, Oklahoma and Baylor left. One last thing to remember, K-State hasn't won in Stillwater since 1999.



No. 4 Ohio State Buckeyes @ No. 16 Northwestern Wildcats

7:00 p.m. CDT ABC

College GameDay is going to be in Evanston, Ill. for this Top 20 matchup. Ohio State has won 28 of the last 29 between these two teams, with Northwestern's only win during that stretch coming in 2004. To make matters worse, Northwestern's current coach, Pat Fitzgerald, has been outscored by 130 points the three times his Wildcats have played the Buckeyes.

These two teams have had one common opponent this year, as both played at California in nonconference play. Northwestern came out with a 44-30 win in their opening game of the year and Ohio State, without Braxton Miller, won 52-34.

This will be Northwestern's first real test of the year. They haven't played as well as some would have hoped in their nonconference schedule, which included a narrow 14-point win over Maine. Ohio State is coming off a win against then-No. 23 Wisconsin in their toughest game to date. Ohio State had a 17 point lead going into the fourth quarter, but had to stop Wisconsin in the final minute to win 31-24.

Look for a lot of running in this game. Both teams average over 200 yards a game on the ground. But the key in this game will be Northwestern's defense against Braxton Miller. If they can contain Miller, they will have a chance, but if they can't, Ohio State will run away with this game and Miller will get his name back into the Heisman race.



No. 15 Washington Huskies @ No. 5 Stanford Cardinal

8:30 p.m. CDT ESPN

Washington has made this game much more important than it looked at the beginning of the season. After wins against Boise State and at Illinois, the Huskies, who started the season unranked, have jumped all the way to No. 15 in the AP Top 25.

Stanford has already notched two conference wins this year. One of them came against then-No. 23 Arizona State. In that game Stanford dominated the first three quarters and turned it into a 42-28 blowout. To be successful against Washington, Stanford must be able to run the ball between the tackles.

The key in this game will be how these two teams handle each others' styles. Stanford is known for its power running game, but junior quarterback Kevin Hogan has improved throwing the ball this year, already amassing 832 yards and completing 63.2 percent of his passes. Washington's offense is the exact opposite of Stanford's power running game. They like to spread it out and get their athletes in space. Washington handled Stanford's physicality last year and upset the Cardinals 17-14.



No. 25 Maryland Terrapins @ No. 8 Florida State Seminoles

11:00 a.m. CDT ESPN

Jameis Winston comes into the biggest game of his young career on everybody's Heisman radar. The freshman quarterback has already thrown for 1,048 yards, but this will be his toughest test so far. He'll face a Maryland defense that is allowing just 10.3 points a game, including a shutout of West Virginia.

Besides West Virginia, Maryland's schedule this year has lacked notable games. The same can be said for Florida State, although they have played two conference games this year. This is both teams' first true test, and we will be able to tell more about each team after this game.

Even though both teams do rank in the Top 20 in total offense, and both teams defenses have played very well this year, this game will be decided by Winston. Maryland, even though they are 4-0 and ranked, cannot score with Florida State. But if Maryland's defense can keep him in check, and force some turnovers, the Terrapins have a shot at this game. Florida State is at home, so look for them to play well and run away with this game.



Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets @ No. 14 Miami (FL) Hurricanes

2:30 p.m. CDT ESPNU

Even though Miami's senior quarterback Stephen Morris has been hobbled by an ankle injury, he set his season high in passing yards with 222 yards last week. Miami, who is off to their best start in nine years — thanks to an upset of then-No. 12 Florida earlier in the year — has climbed up to No. 14 in the country. A lot of that is thanks to an offense that is 10th in the nation in scoring, averaging 45.3 points per game.

Like every Paul Johnson team, Georgia Tech runs the football, a lot. They're averaging 291.3 yards a game with their run heavy option offense. Even with all his success at Georgia Tech, one team Johnson has struggled with consistently has been Miami. He is 1-4 against the Hurricanes so far at the Yellow Jacket helm. Three of those losses have been by 16 points or more.

Miami has won the last four between these teams. In that streak Miami has handled Georgia Tech and their option offense well, holding them to just 16 points a game during the winning streak. They will have to continue that defensive success if they want to move to 5-0 on the year.



West Virginia Mountaineers @ No. 17 Baylor Bears

7:00 p.m. CDT FOX Sports 1

When these two teams get together, you can be for certain it will be an offensive game. West Virginia won a 70-63 game last year; a game in which a receiver from each team topped 300 yards receiving. West Virginia hasn't scored at that pace this year, but Baylor has been racking up points, averaging 69.7 points per game so far.

Even though Baylor's offensive stats are impressive, all of that has come against Wofford, Buffalo and Louisiana-Monroe. So this will be a "how good are you really?" game for Baylor. While the Bears will probably still put up a lot of points, it will not continue at this current pace.

West Virginia's defense last year was a mess from top to bottom, but last week against Oklahoma State the defense spurred a 30-21 upset of the Cowboys. While Oklahoma State had success in the air, the Mountaineers held them to a paltry 2.8 yards per carry. Stopping junior Lache Seastrunk should be priority number one for West Virginia. Doing that will give them a chance to have their offense win it for them.

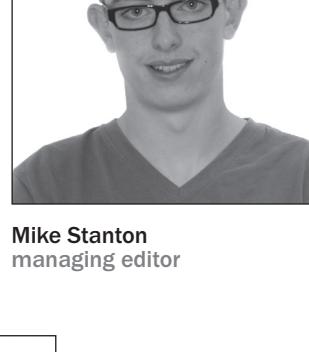
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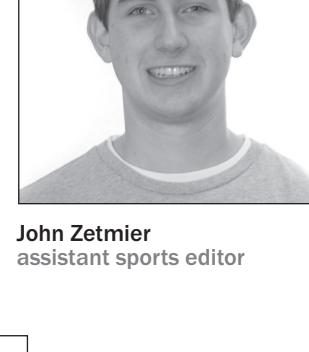
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Sean Frye
sports editor



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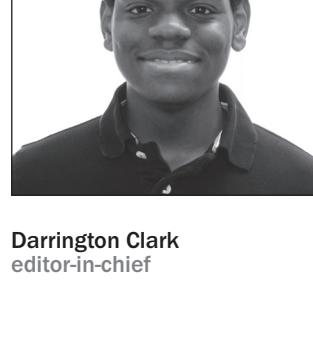
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Record:
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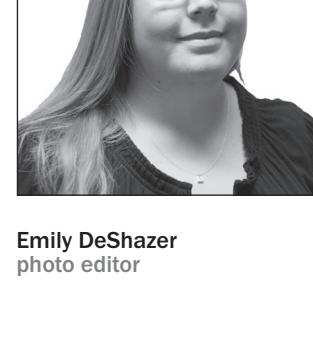
John Zetmier
assistant sports editor



**K-State
Ohio St.
Stanford
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Georgia Tech
Baylor**

Record:
15-9

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Head to Head: K-State vs. Oklahoma State

GUEST COLUMNIST: CHRISTIAN FAVALORA, SPORTS EDITOR, THE DAILY O'COLLY



Sean Frye

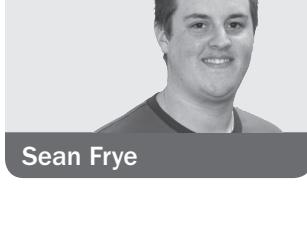
The K-State Wildcats obviously haven't gotten off to the best of starts in 2013. The losses to North Dakota State and Texas certainly weren't pretty. But Oklahoma State's loss to West Virginia is the biggest upset of any team in the Big 12 this season. North Dakota State is a legitimate team that would probably end up in a late December to early January bowl game if it played at the FBS level. West Virginia may be lucky to get to a bowl this season, and its defense swallowed up J.W. Walsh and company. Although K-State's defense hasn't been that successful this year, it's still better than West Virginia's.

Both teams are clearly discovering new issues week by week, but there's a hard line here. Oklahoma State's loss to a Big 12 team can't possibly be worse than a Big 12 team's loss to an FCS school. Regardless of North Dakota State's ability, K-State is at a major advantage in terms of recruiting, competition opportunities and resources. That loss puts a black mark on the conference, which is already suffering a slump of its own. Give West Virginia's defense credit. It held OSU to 433 yards of offense, but that's only 41 yards below the team's average — not crippling defense. And J.W. Walsh came near his personal rushing average on a day when he never looked comfortable on the field. That said, K-State's defense comes in below the Mountaineers in almost every major category: points against, total defense, pass efficiency defense and rushing defense. All things being equal, Walsh and company should put up above average numbers Saturday. Playing in Boone Pickens Stadium makes a big difference, too. K-State's defense hasn't played at this pace yet, so it should be a good test for the defensive line.



Sean Frye

Obviously Boone Pickens Stadium makes a world of difference. But the entire Big 12 is full of loud atmospheres. The Wildcats are used to competing in loud atmospheres and have enjoyed great success in them. Just look at our win at Oklahoma last year. And the Cowboys made Clint Trickett, an average quarterback at best for West Virginia, look like a superstar. What do you think an arm like Jake Waters, the nation's best junior college quarterback last year who threw for 275 yards against Texas, can do to the Cowboys weak secondary?



Sean Frye

I think you're raising questions about the wrong secondary. The Cowboy secondary's poor performance a year ago still comes up in conversation and that's fair, most people blame Justin Gilbert. But this is not last year's secondary, and Gilbert looks like an altogether different player. He has two interceptions and the rest of the defensive backs have added four more. OSU is on the positive side of the turnover battle, K-State is not.

Turnovers are certainly a huge part of any team's success. And the fact that K-State has struggled with turnovers is a huge reason the Wildcats are 2-2 and not undefeated, like they could be. But, struggling with turnovers is also very uncharacteristic of Bill Snyder coached teams. Snyder preaches to death the fundamentals and controlling the things you can control. So especially with the Wildcats coming off a bye week, you've got to think that Snyder has coached up the Wildcats to turn the ball over less. And that will certainly bode well heading into Stillwater.

It's hard to predict what any game will be like against K-State. Snyder has a way of getting the most out of his players and taking the most out of the other team. The biggest question mark to me is whether Snyder can get his team to run the ball more successfully than the Cowboys. After last week, that ought to come easy, and I think it would be the linchpin in a game plan designed for an upset.



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POWERCAT PROFILE

JONATHAN TRUMAN



Emily DeShazer | Collegian

K-State junior defensive end Ryan Mueller and junior linebacker Jonathan Truman tackle Texas junior quarterback David Ash on Sept. 21. Truman said the team needed to remember how it felt to lose to keep it from happening again.

Corbin McGuire
staff writer

Remember the pain. That is junior linebacker Jonathan Truman's message to players on K-State's football team who weren't around in 2009 and 2010 when the team went 6-6 and 7-6, respectively.

The former walk-on was a redshirt in 2010, but he said he remembers the six losses during that season, as well as how tough the seven wins came.

"Just building and improving on a football team, and trying to make something great happen," Truman said.

With the Wildcats sitting at 2-2 for the first time since 2009, Truman said the message is becoming louder and shared more frequently.

"Just remember how it feels to lose," Truman said. "Because if you don't remember how it feels to lose and really feel that pain, then you're not going to stop it from happening again."

The losses are especially difficult to deal with after the past two seasons of double-digit wins.

"Really the past couple of years we've really gotten used to winning," Truman said. "And when games were close, we always somehow pulled it out and somehow won. When there are games that are close

and we end up losing, it's kind of a shock to us. Right now, we're just handling it in a way of just getting it all together."

Vocalizing this message, however, is difficult for Truman, who is in his first season as a starter.

"Yeah, that's something that I always need to improve on is really being more vocal, and it's something that is kind of out of my comfort zone," Truman said, who played mainly special teams in 2011 and 2012.

"We talk about it. I said it's important for some of the guys who weren't around when we were 7-6 that they know what it feels like to lose so that it doesn't happen again."

K-State head coach Bill Snyder said he's seen more vocal leadership from older players referencing the 2009 and 2010 seasons since the loss to Texas.

"We did a little drill in which everyone stepped up and said, 'Here's what I haven't done as well as I need to, and here's what I'm going to try and do to help this football team,'" Snyder said.

Truman said small changes like, "watching film on our own when we have spare time instead of only when we have mandatory meetings" are some of the "little things" that could get K-State back to where they've been accustomed to the past two seasons.

Even if Truman's vocal leadership isn't where he wants it to be, his leadership ability is still effective according to sophomore safety Dante Barnett.

"We see his leadership but he's not that much of a vocal leader," Barnett said. "Like I said about [Lockett], Jonathan just tries to show us what to do and the ways to do it instead of yelling, then getting us hyped about it."

One way or the other, Truman said he is trying to "get everybody on the right side of the fence."

"As long as everybody is on one side of the fence, we can do great things," Truman said.

"I think it comes down to some of the new guys that you talk about that might be on the other side of the fence just kind of walked into a winning program. Some people might not know what it takes to win. They just kind of walked in and started winning, and thought that it might just be handed to them."

Don't confuse Truman's words for panic, however.

"It's natural for us to be bothered by something like that but I'm not here to lick my wounds and cry about anything," Truman said. "We're moving on. What's done is done, and we're looking forward."

According to Truman, what it boils down to is players'

willingness to follow the leaders who've been a part of the building process at K-State, and know what it takes to win. "With great leaders, you

have to have great followers as well," Truman said. "Not everybody can be a leader and not everybody can be a follower. With leaders, with whatever

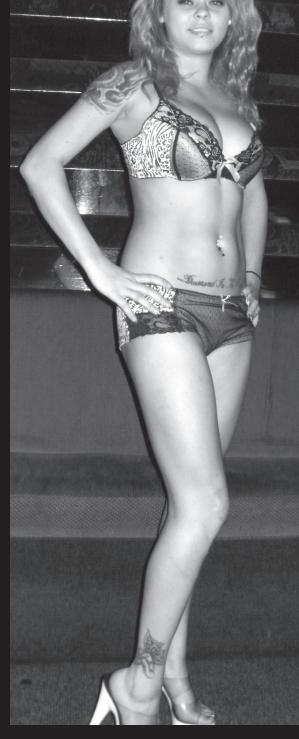
they're trying to say, the followers have to do it, and that's how great teams are formed is when everybody can work together."



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ANALYSIS | Loss on Saturday could end Big 12 title hopes for both teams

Continued from page 1

quarterback J.W. Walsh, whose dual-threat capability has him ranked fourth in the conference in total yards per game with 299.5.

Oklahoma State head coach Mike Gundy also employs the spread no-huddle offense, as do most Big 12 teams. That will be one of the biggest obstacles for the Wildcats to overcome on Saturday.

"I would say their tempo just

because they are faster than any team that we have faced this year," sophomore defensive back Dante Barnett said. "But every team in the Big 12 has a fast tempo and a spread offense. So I feel like we have been preparing all year for this."

Ultimately, both K-State and Oklahoma State are coming off losses, and both teams are looking to get their season back on track. A win on Saturday for either

side could set the tone for the entire season, while a loss would likely bury any chance of winning the Big 12.

"We are angry after a loss, so I would assume that they are angry after a loss and motivated like we are," sophomore kicker Jack Cantele said. "I expect a good game, and we expect them to be the team that everyone thinks that they are. It is going to be a good challenge for us."

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